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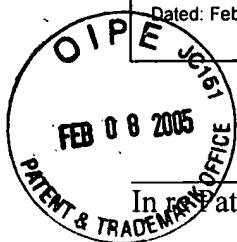
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV336621659US, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: February 8, 2005

Signature:

(Carol M. Gruppi)

Docket No.: 441472000500
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

H. Ralph SNODGRASS

Application No.: 09/881,526

Confirmation No.: 9899

Filed: June 14, 2001

Art Unit: 1636

For: TOXICITY TYPING USING LIVER STEM
CELLS

Examiner: D. Sullivan

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated August 9, 2004, for which a response was due on November 9, 2004. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a three-month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to February 9, 2005. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.